

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 06176 141604Z

53

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8378

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR EG US

SUBJECT: PRESS PLAY ON FAHMY VISIT

1. ALL MAJOR PAPERS AUGUST 14 CARRY HEADLINES AND FEATURE STORIES ON FAHMY'S TALKS IN WASHINGTON AND PARTICULARLY HIS MEETING WEDNESDAY WITH PRESIDENT FORD. HAMDI FUAD, REPORTING FROM WASHINGTON IN AHAM, POINTS OUT THAT FAHMY WILL BE PRESIDENT FORD'S FIRST CONTACT WITH A HIGH-RANKING ARAB PERSONALITY. FUAD ALSO REPORTS THAT FAHMY ATTENDED THE JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS

"AT THE PRESIDENT'S INVITATION" TO HEAR PRESIDENT FORD'S ADDRESS. THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT FORD'S REITERATED PLEDGE NOT TO CHANGE U.S. POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AHAM SAYS ASHRAF MARWDN IS RETURNING TO EGYPT TO REPORT TO PRESIDENT SADAT ON THE DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON.

2.HPRESS CARRIES FAHMY'S STATEMENT THAT KISSINGER HAS ASSURED HIM THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY OF PROMOTING BETTER BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH EGYPT. FAHMY IS REPORTED AS RECEIVING THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR, DOBRYNIN, AT THE LATTER'S REQUEST ON AUGUST 13 AND THAT THE LATTER WAS CARRYING A MESSAGE FROM GROMYKO.

3. ALL PAPERS REPORTED MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY SIMON AND THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 06176 141604Z

MIN-

ISTER OF PLANNING, ISMAIL SABRI ABADALLAH, AND ALSO GAVE COVERAGE TO ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS WORKING GROUPS.

4. REPOTING IN GUMHURIYYA, HODA FARID DESCRIBES THE "CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING" TO DISCUSS ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT. FOLLOWING A MOVE BY SOME OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBES TO REDUCE AID TO \$150,000,000 SHE CLAIMS THE COMMITTEE PASSED FAVORABLY THE RECOMMENDATION FOR \$25,000,000 WORTH OF AID TO EGYPT.

5. AHARAM HAS SOLE EDITORIAL COMMENT ON FAHMY'S VISIT. LABELLING HIS MEETING WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS AS OF SINGULAR IMPORTANCE. PAPER EXPLAINS SINGLE, MOST POWERFUL ISRAEL LOBBY IS IN THE CONGRESS AND THAT THERE MUST BE CONTINUOUS EFFORTS TO PLAN THE ARAB POSITION TO THIS LOBBY.

6. REPORTS FROM
FP IN TEL AVIV SAY THAT FAHMY HAS ASKED
KISSINGER FOR WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM SHARM EL-SHAikh
AND ABU RHODEIS AS PART OF THE NEXT STEPS IN THE SETTLEMENT
PROCESS.

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